THE GENESEE FARMER.

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By Luther Tucker & Co.
EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1834.

Improved Short Horns.

The following is an extract from a letter to the Editors, from one of the gentlemen alluded to by *Ulmus*, in his communication on Improved Stock, (page 405, vol 3,) as having "rendered great service to the country by extensive importations" of improved breeds of Cattle. We thank the writer for his suggestion in relation to giving correct Portraits of superior animals, and we hope to be able, in the course of the present year, to present our readers with such Portraits of many of the fine Animals now owned in this state:

"I have myself become a resident here very lately, having purchased my farm last March only, and then moved my stock of *Improved Short Horns*, some imported and some bred in this country; but, small as my herd is, about 16 in number, they are all *Herd Book* animals, and consequently of first rate quality and *blood*. It is only now, and since my neighbors have seen the prices they command, that prejudice is giving way—that most stubborn of all weeds that farmers have to contend with. From my boyhood up I have been a breeder of stock, both in this country and in England; and have only been waiting 'till the hurry of entering on a neglected farm should be a little over to offer you some suggestions on the subject. One of these was, the occasional introduction into your paper of *correct portraits* of animals of *acknowledged excellence*, by which those who stay at home might have a standard of comparison by which to judge of their own stock and its relative excellence. In this, I should be glad to render you every assistance in my power, by drawings from some of my own stock. I name to you individuals from *my own yard*, because they are within my reach, and because no man, but Mr. Powell, I believe, has so good a stock of *Herd Book animals*. Among them is an animal who took the *first premium* at Otley in England, before I purchased him—he was bred by Mr. *Whitaker*, and would make a good subject for the pencil."

Maple Grove, Butternuts, Otsego Co. Dec. 17, 1833.

☞The letter of A. A. K. of Saratoga Springs, was duly received and the money applied as directed. We have endeavored to avoid the subject to which he alludes, and are not conscious of having erred in the manner specified. Will not A. A. K. become a correspondent of the Farmer?

Fruit Gardens.

The best way to enclose a FRUIT GARDEN will require some consideration. No common fence will answer; and unless it be so formidable as to stop such persons as wander across lots, or to leave them no excuse should they cross over it,—the proprietor can have no reasonable hope of security. Many boys and some men, would be very willing to take fruit to which they knew they were not welcome, provided they could do it without *seeming* to go after it; but to break through a good picket fence, or to climb over it, is a trespass of too glaring a nature to be justified. Even some very lax moralists would not be seen there. A pale or picket fence may therefore be a tolerable guard against these rovers, as well as against the urchins of the neighborhood. A breach through it would be considered in a court of justice as a very unfavorable symptom in the perpetrator's case, and which would place him high on the list of candidates for the county jail.

It is not to be disputed however, that such fellows may be found; and on this account we are strongly inclined to recommend a good hedge. In favor of thorns we have but little to say. Like the crab apple (*Pyrus coronaria*) they are well armed against intruders; but like it, they are infested by the common caterpillar, which would add something to the cares and labors of the owner, if he should subdue them entirely. If not, new colonies would annually emanate from the hedge. Both kinds are also liable to be gnawed by the mice in winter; and in a country so subject to snow drifts as ours, it is a circumstance worthy of due consideration.

The Detroit rose (*Rosa rubifolia*) has been recommended as a hedge* plant. It is very hardy and very prickly; and if it were trained over a picket fence, we think it would be stout enough to keep its station after the fence should decay. It is increased by cuttings and by layers, and grows rapidly. When in flower, no hedge in this climate would exceed it in beauty.

The honey locust (*Gleditschia triacanthos*) stands amongst the most formidable of spiny plants. In the western country, it becomes a majestic forest tree; but we believe this would constitute no valid objection against its being used for hedges. Plants of a proper size, may be had at the ALBANY NURSERY for five dollars a thousand. Judge Buel has proposed to set them ten inches apart. A FRUIT GARDEN fifteen rods square would therefore require, *if planted in one row*, about three hundred for each side, or twelve hundred plants to enclose the whole. We feel strongly inclined to recommend this kind of hedge. It is a native and not known to be injured by any kind of insect. It might be planted at the same time with the fruit trees, and all be enclosed by a common rail fence, well staked and ridered, leaving between the hedge and the fence, room enough to introduce the plough. Then, if the land on both sides, be kept in a high state of cultivation, ploughing it about once a month, we may estimate that the hedge would be ready to protect the trees, about as soon as they would come into full bearing; and we cannot think at present, of any fence that would be so cheap and so effectual.

* Genesee Farmer, Vol. 2, page 138.

Horses and Oxen.

The following comparison between the expense of a yoke of Oxen and a Horse at a marketable age, is given in the Report of the Trustees of the Kennebec (Maine) Agricultural Society, which we find in the Maine Farmer:

RAISING A HORSE.		A YOKE OF OXEN.	
Use of Stud	$4,00	Use of Bull	$2,00
Use of Mare	20,00	Raising calves	10,00
Keeping first winter	7,00	1st Wintering	12,00
Insurance	1,00	Insurance	50
At one year old	$32,00	At one year old	$24,50
2d year—Summering	3,00	2d year—Interest	1,49
Wintering	7,00	Summering	4,00
Interest	1,92	Wintering	12,00
Insurance	1,00	Tax	33
Tax	50	Insurance	50
At two years old	45,42	At two years old	42,82
3d year—Summering	5,00	3d year—Summering	7,00
Wintering	11,00	Wintering	12,00
Interest	2,71	Interest	2,56
Tax	75	Insurance	75
Insurance	1,50		
At three years old	66,38	At three years old	65,13
4th year—Summer'g	5.00	Price of Oxen	$0,00
Wintering	15,00	Price of Horse	60,00
Interest	3,98	Difference	20,00
Tax	1,00	Loss on the Horse	34,36
Insurance	1,50	Gain in the Oxen	14,87
Shoeing once	1.50		
At four years old	$94,36	Diffe'nce to raiser	$49,23
Labor equal to breaking.			

Deep Ploughing.

In the Report above alluded to, we find the following remarks on Deep Ploughing:

Much has of late been said upon shoal and deep ploughing, and it may not be amiss here to discuss that question, and thereby elicit information. We believe the nature of the soil and subsoil must determine the depth. A shoal soil with a clay subsoil will not admit of being ploughed deep. But any soil composed of loam or sand may and probably ought to be ploughed much deeper than has been the practice of our farmers. For such sward land seven or eight inches are not too deep. The advantages are numerous. It will afford a better opportunity to cover long and unrotted manures, the fermentation of which beneath the sward must be of lasting benefit to the soil. It gives an opportunity to work above the sward with the smaller plough, harrow and hoe—is a greater saving of the manure of the sward, which has been estimated at 12 tons to the acre; and if the land is to be stocked down immediately to grass without hoeing, it can be done much sooner with the same smoothness by means of the harrow and roller; and a deeper and looser soil is created, much to the advantage of the succeeding crops, as the tendency of the manures ploughed in is to rise and go off by evaporation, and not, as has been supposed, to soak downwards. There are some disadvantages in ploughing deep. More manure is required for a single crop. The crops will be later in arriving at maturity, which is a serious injury in some instances, to Indian corn particularly; but an advantage to many other crops, and especially to wheat, as it will be longer in growing, of course less likely to blast; and afford a better opportunity for harvesting in connection with the farmers' other crops. And more STRENGTH of team is required to plough the same land. On the whole, we are decidedly of the opinion, that good policy requires us to plough deeper than has been the general custom of our farmers.

On the use of Sun Dials.

Owing to the exhalations which condense in winter, from our numerous and wide spreading lakes, the Genesee Country is more subject to cloudy weather at this season, than any other part of the United States in which we have resided. The effects of this, are highly beneficial. The keenness of the atmosphere is softened by the caloric which exhales from those waters, while the clouds serve as curtains to prevent the latent heat of the land and of the objects on its surface from radiating to the heavens. But there are other peculiarities of our climate. In consequence of this exemption from sunshine, light snows often afford good sleighing; and at the same time our grain fields and meadows are protected from the frost. The icicle, dependent from the eaves so conspicuously in other sections of the country, is here a rarity.

We would remind our readers however, of one disadvantage. When cloudy weather continues for many days, we remark a great difference in the time indicated by different clocks and watches in the country; and also the great inconvenience which such a disagreement occasions. Call a meeting and fix the hour, and many will come straggling in as if they had lost their way. It is no better at places of worship; and we think it time that some remedy was proposed. It is true that a good time piece, properly regulated in fair weather, may hold on its way through clouds and storms; but judging from appearances, there are too few which belong to this class; or else they run down for want of winding.

Our proposed remedy is as follows: Let every independent freeholder provide himself with a DIAL. We can assure him from experience that they are very useful things. It will frequently happen that the sun will shine out for a few minutes between the clouds: then observe the true time, and set the watch or clock. It is probably not once in five times when we have broken clouds, that the sun can be seen, either at rising, noon or setting; but the DIAL is always ready to assist us in taking advantage of every gloom.

The Planting Machine.

It will be seen by the annexed letter that one of the Planting Machines of which a drawing and description were given in the third volume of the Farmer, page 341, is to be sent to our office for the inspection of farmers. Notice of its arrival will be given.

Copenhagen, Dec. 30, 1833.

Messrs. Tucker & Co.—I observed in the Farmer of the 21st instant, an inquiry from a subscriber, relative to Messrs. Robins' Planting Machine. I am requested by the Messrs. Robbins, to say to you, that they will, in the course of the winter, furnish a machine to be exhibited at your office. They have not for some time past made any machines, having had their shop and tools destroyed by fire. They are now commencing making, and will be able to furnish any number that may be wanted. I can assure you and the public, that the statement which appeared in the Farmer of the 26th October with my signature, is true, and that every person who has used the machine, will give the like statement in regard to its usefulness.

I am, gentlemen, yours, respectfully,
SAMUEL ALLEN.

Jefferson County.

The Executive Committee of the Jefferson County Agricultural Society, consisting of J. Le Ray de Chaumont, E. Ten Eyck, E. Kirby, Geo. White, Olney Pearce, and Orville Hungerford, have adopted the following Petition to the Legislature:

To the Senate and Assembly of the State of New-York.

The undersigned, in behalf of the Jefferson County Agricultural Society, and at the instance of great numbers of their fellow citizens of the County, of all professions and occupations, beg leave, respectfully, to present, the strong sense, entertained by them of the expediency of further providing by law for the encouragement of agriculture.

It is obvious to the most common observer, that the Agricultural Society of Jefferson county, through a course of seventeen years of its existence has exercised, in a high degree, a beneficial influence upon the agriculture of the county. Its good effects are exhibited, among other things, in the introduction of new and improved breeds of domestic animals, in the general practice of better and more systematic husbandry, and in a wholesome spirit of emulation, which it has excited among our farmers, imparting to the property invested in agricultural pursuits increased value, and to the pursuit itself, increased interest and respectability. We anxiously desire to see this source of good perpetuated among us and its benefits extended to every part of the state by legislative enactments, providing for its permanent support.

We are led to this expression of our sentiments by the proceedings at the last session of the legislature. Of the two reports upon this important subject introduced by Mr. Sudam and Mr. Skinner into the two houses respectively, one providing for an institution to impart scientific and practical instruction to youth, upon all branches of agricultural knowledge, and the other providing, by appropriations from the state treasury, for the support of agricultural societies in every county, and for a central state society; covering as they do, the whole ground, it is sufficient to say, that we have examined with the deep interest their importance deserves, and that we cordially approve of the measures they respectively advocate, as tending to elevate and encourage that pursuit which, in our country, is emphatically the basis of all others, and upon the prosperity of which, the welfare of the whole country essentially depends.

If called upon to decide upon the relative merit and claim to our regard of these two distinct propositions, though ardently desiring the success of both, we express our unhesitating preference for that introduced into the House of Assembly by Mr. Skinner, as more immediately and more extensively useful. Under its beneficent provisions, enterprise, animated by the patronage of the government, will seek out new sources of wealth and tax nature to her utmost limit in multiplying her bounties upon the labors of the husbandman.

Docking Horses.—Mr. William Carver, one of the oldest and most experienced Farriers of Philadelphia, says, in a pamphlet against cruelty to horses, that no horse is worth so much by twenty-five per cent. with his tail cut off.

Ornithological Note.

Addressed to the Editors—dated 28th ult.

The crow was not originally an inhabitant of the Genesee Country; and it is hardly twenty years since they became fully settled amongst us. I observe that they are annually on the increase. This fall they seemed to hold a general convention, consisting of many hundreds, if not thousands, from——I know not how many towns. The clamor was most remarkable, and it lasted several days. At present there appear to be no strangers amongst them. Every day we may see them flying over, as if journeying to some distant place in search of provisions.

Last summer I disturbed a crow near the road side, and he rose through the air with a garter snake dangling from his bill. He seemed uneasy however, with his burden, and lit down at the distance of about thirty rods in another field. Here he was surrounded by two or three others, and considerable pulling and chasing took place. I went also into the field to get a better view of the sport, but it alarmed them; and one,—for I could not distinguish one competitor from another,—rose up and carried off the prize to their lodge in the woods.

I have not found an instance of this kind in either *Wilson* or *Nuttall*, and send it as something *new*, though it is but a trifle.

Reclaiming useless Lands.

In the Report of the Committee on Farms of the Middlesex (Mass.) Agricultural Society, published in the New-England Farmer, we find the following notice of two successful efforts in reclaiming lands of little value:

Mr. How's farm contains 117 acres, well proportioned with the various kinds of soil, which are necessary to make a farmer more active. This farm, purchased by Mr. How about 40 years ago, was destitute of fences, except brush and wood; and the buildings nearly decayed; and not more than one ton of English hay cut on the farm. By the industry and hard labor of Mr. How, the farm now is in good state of cultivation, with 933 rods of wall, 400 rods of ditches, a large house, 2 barns, sheds and out buildings, necessary for a farmer, built by Mr. How; a good stock of cattle, and now cuts 20 tons of English hay, 10 tons of meadow hay; grain and other produce in proportion. The improvements on this farm have been made chiefly by draining the low lands, and taking the manure from the ditches and putting it on the high land, previously passing through the cow and hog yards, and also by leveling with hoes rough and boggy land, and covering the same with sand or gravel, manure and hay seed; which your Committee think far better than ploughing where the soil is wet and heavy. The labor that has been performed on the farm was chiefly done by Mr. How's own hands and team. By a long and steady course of industry and good husbandry, the farm which was of little income, has now become a profitable field.

Mr. Moore's land, which we have examined, is about 60 acres, chiefly swamps and meadow land. In 1830, 1831, 1832, and 1833, there were from 40 to 50 tons of English hay cut annually. This land lies about half a mile east of Concord meeting house, and is known to a large portion of the county. The mode of cultivation has been first by taking from the soil from 6 to 10 inches, then leveling with sand or gravel, and spreading manure; second, by ploughing and hoeing; third, by leveling the ground with the hoe and covering with sand or gravel and manure. The last mode is thought to be the best; it being less labor, and frequently covering it with a little gravel and manure, it will always hold good. Some of this land is worth from 100

to 150 dollars per acre; bearing from 1½ to 2½ tons per acre, which for seven years previous the income was not one cent per acre. It is difficult to ascertain the expense of reclaiming an acre of this land; but no man need fear to undertake, for it will amply compensate him for his labor. Your Committee are of opinion, that if more labor was laid out on swamps and meadow lands, that do not produce any wood, and less on high and rocky land that might produce wood, it would be much for the interest of the farmer and country at large.

☞ The communication of "T. D." next week.

On the Feeding and Management of Milch Cows.

It is of great consequence in the management of a dairy that the cows should be treated with gentleness, so that they may not be afraid of being milked, nor dislike the milker. A cow will not yield her milk willingly to a person she fears, hates, or apprehends ill treatment from. Young cows, in particular, may have their characters for gentleness and good milkers formed by the manner in which they are treated. This truth, of much importance to all concerned in a dairy or its products, is well established and illustrated by a communication from Mr. Russel Woodward, published in *Memoirs of the New-York Board of Agriculture*, in substance as follows:

Having formerly kept a large number of cows, I observed many among them that dried up their milk so early in the fall, that they were not profitable, while others, with the same keeping, gave milk in plenty until late in the season. I likewise have often heard my neighbors observe, that some of their cows, though very good in the forepart of the season, dried up their milk so early that they were unprofitable, and they should have to put them off; I accordingly found it expedient to find out the cause if possible: and when I brought to mind the ways that some of my young cows had been kept and milked, I attributed the cause to the milking of them the first season they gave milk; and by many experiments since, I have found that young cows, the first year they give milk, may be made, with careful milking and good keeping, to give milk almost any length of time required, say from the first of May to the first of February following, and will give milk late always after, with careful milking. But if they are left to dry up of their milk early in the fall, they are sure to dry up of their milk each succeeding year, if they have a calf near the same season of the year; and nothing but extraordinary keeping will prevent it, and that but a short time. I have had them dried up of their milk in August, and could not by any means make them give milk much past that time in any succeeding year. I had two heifers, which had calves in April, and after getting them gentle, I set a boy to milk them for the season, (which is often done the first season on account of their having small teats:) he was careless, and dried them both up in August. Although I was satisfied I should lose the greater part of the profit of them afterwards, yet I took it upon me the following year to milk them myself and give good feed, but to no purpose. I could not make them give milk much past the time they dried the year before. I have two cows now that were milked the first year they had calves until near the time of their calving again, and have continued to give milk as late ever since, if we will milk them.—*N. E. Far.*

Steam Carriages on Common Roads.—A correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, writes from London that the steam carriages now run from that city to places around it, without any accident. One had gone to Birmingham to ascertain by experiment, whether it could ascend the chalk hills. The chief difficulty with them is in ascending hills on new roads or where roads have been recently repaired. On the score of economy, it is said they are vastly preferable to horses.

Synopsis of Meteorological Tables for the years 1831, 32, & 33.

Months.	Temperature.			Pressure.			Inches Rain			Inches Snow.			Tem. Sp. Wa'r.		
	1831.	1832.	1833.	1831.	1832.	1833.	1831.	1832.	1833.	1831.	1832.	1833.	1831.	1832.	1833.
January....	23	26.4	31.4	29.45	29.56	29.42	.3	.9	1.4	15	15	11	37	39	35
February..	23.5	26	26	29.70	29.63	29.51	.5	.4	0.0	33	29	35	36	37	37
March.....	41.8	38.6	35.4	29.39	29.44	29.50	1.3	.8	.1	5	9	7	37	38	36
April.....	47.5	47.4	52.5	29.38	29.48	29.54	3.8	1.5	1.8	2		1	42	41	41
May.....	59.7	57.2	62	29.42	29.51	29.51	2.8	4.3	6.1	6			48	48	50
June.....	71 6	70.3	62	29,53	29.50	29.42	3.4	1.2	2.6				52	50	52
July.....	71.3	74	70 9	29.49	29.50	29.51	5.4	4	3.8				58	54	54
August. ..	71	70.5	68	29.61	29.60	29.49	1.2	2	2				60	56	56
September	60.9	62.8	63.5	29.50	29.54	29.54	2.4	1.7	1.5				57	56	55
October....	51.5	52 6	49.5	29.54	29.50	29.46	4.2	2.3	1.3				54	53	55
November	38.9	41.5	40.4	29.44	29 51	29.48	1.6	2 8	1	3	6	8	48	49	50
December.	19.5	34.5	34	29.49	29.47	29.56	0.0	2.4	1	13	13	13	40	44	42
Ann. Res's	48.3	50.1	49.6	29.49	29 52	29.49	26.9	24 3	22.6	77	72	75	47.4	47.1	46.9

Meteorological Table.

KEPT AT ROCHESTER, FOR DECEMBER, 1833.

	10 A. M.				10 P. M.			
Days.	therm'r	barom-eter.	winds	sky	therm.	barom-eter.	winds.	sky
1	30	29,60	N	r. 1-10 in	36	29,60	N	cloudy
2	40	29,70	E	cloudy	34	29,70	N E	do
3	42	29,75	E	fair	39	29,75	E	do
4	42	29,80	S W	do	39	30,85	W	do
5	40	30,90	W	do	39	29,85	W	do
6	39	29,90	E	rainy	34	29,85	N	do
7	34	29,80	E	cloudy	38	29,80	N E	do
8	36	29 70	E	do sn 3 in	34	29,45	S E	do
9	35	29,56	N W	do	33	29,45	W	do
10	32	29,55	N W	do sn 1 in	33	29,40	W	fair
11	35	29,55	N W	fair	32	29,55	N	do
12	22	29,70	N	do	31	29,75	N E	cloudy
13	32	29,80	N W	cloudy	26	29,75	N	fair
14	18	29,70	E	fair	22	29,60	E	do
15	30	29,65	E	do*	27	29,65	E	do
16	28	29,65	E	do	32	29,50	E	do
17	34	29,25	E	clo. h. w.	32	29,20	E	cloudy
18	32	29,30	S E	do sn 3 in	32	29,55	E	do
19	32	29,75	W	fair	30	29,75	N W	do
20	37	29,85	W	do	30	29,70	W	fair
21	30	29,60	S	do	34	29,50	S W	cloudy
22	37	29,60	W	do sn 1 in	32	29,70	W	fair
23	36	29,50	S W	do	38	29,30	S	rainy
24	44	29,25	S	clo.r 4-10	41	29,20	W	fair
25	44	29,10	S W	rainy	35	29,30	W	rainy
26	32	29,50	W	fair	30	29,45	W	fair
27	26	29,55	W	do h. w.	24	29,45	N W	do
28	28	29,45	W	cloudy	30	29,35	W	do
29	40	29,60	W	fair	32	29,70	W	do
30	34	29,50	S W	cl'y snow	40	29,35	S	do
31	44	29,25	S W	fair	32	29,35	W	do h. w.

Means, Ther. 34—bar. 29.56—rn 1 in—sn 13in.
* Spring water 42°.

Table of Monthly Results for 1833.

Months—	Ther.	Barom.	In. Rn.	In. Sn.	Temp. Sp. W.
January	31.4	29.42	1.4	11	35
February	26	29.51		35	37
March	35.4	29.50	.1	7	36
April	52.5	29.54	1.8	1	41
May	62	29.51	6.1		50
June	62	29.42	2.6		52
July	70.9	29.51	3.8		54
August	68	29.49	2		56
Septem.	63.5	29.54	1.5		55
October	49.5	29.46	1.3		55
Novem.	40.4	29.48	1	8	50
Decem.	34	29.56	1	13	42
Mean	49.6	29.49	22.6	75	46.9

Marl.—The southern part of New-Jersey, eastern Virginia, portions of Delaware, and Maryland, are destined to derive great benefit from the use of marl as manure. An increased attention is daily given to it. It is found diffused extensively, and in inexhaustible quantities.

Coldest and Warmest Days of 1831, 32, & 33.

Years.	Coldest Day	Warm't Day.	Mean of Ex
1831.	February 7, 4 below zero.	June 3, 95° above zero	49.5
1832.	January 27, 6° below zero.	June 25, 88° above zero.	47
1833.	January 17, 4 above zero	July 21, 91° above zero.	43.5

Young Cattle.

Young's Farmer's Calendar, under January, contains the following observations. "Last year's calves should now be fed with hay and roots, either turneps, carrots, or potatoes; and they should be-thoroughly well fed, and kept perfectly clean by means of litter; at this age it is a matter of great consequence to keep such young cattle as well as possible, for the contrary practice will inevitably stop their growth, which cannot be recovered by the best summer food. If hay is not to be had, good straw must be substituted; but then the roots should be given in greater plenty and with more attention. To steers and heifers two years old, the proper food is hay, if cheap; or straw, with baits of turneps, cabbages, &c. It is not right to keep yearling calves and two year olds together; because in general the younger cattle are, the better they should be fed."—*N. E. Far.*

Systematic Farming.

In the winter season you will do well to take breakfast by candle light. You will thus save an hour in a day at the least calculation, and in a week nearly or quite the working part of a winters's day. You may find a profitable amusement for several of these long evenings in contriving and laying out work to be done the next season. You should have a plan of your premises, or at least a list of the fields or parcels of land of which they are composed, together with notices of the soil, the preceding crops, the kind and quantity of manure, mode of culture, &c. &c. which have been bestowed on each. Then proceed to set down what is to be done in each field. Such as No. 1, Indian corn, the borders with potatoes of the Chenango sort, the corn in drills, after manuring with stable manure at the rate of —— cords to an acre, spread evenly and ploughed under. No. 2, spring wheat, &c. No. 3, sowed with winter wheat last fall, to be ploughed immediately after harvest, for a crop of ruta baga, &c. &c.—*Ib.*

Rail Road.—A meeting was held at Batavia on the 28th ult. for the purpose of taking measures to procure the incorporation of a company this winter, to construct a Rail Road from Batavia to Buffalo, connecting at the former place with the Tonnawanta Rail Road. A committee, consisting of Ethan B. Allen, Timothy Fitch, H. N. Soper, H. Holden, and Horace Gibbs, was appointed to draft a Memorial to the Legislature.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Culture of Turneps.

The culture of turneps has been frequently pressed upon the readers of the Farmer in extracts from the best European and American farming Journals, and, what I consider of higher authority, by the history of some practical results obtained by that first of New-York farmers Judge Buel. But I do not now recollect any of your correspondents in the western district who have furnished for your Journal an account of their experience in turnep farming.* I have made some few experiments (for what I have done I consider nothing more) in that branch of agriculture, and send you the result, which you are at liberty to place before the readers of the Farmer. In 1832 I sowed a small bed with the Ruta Baga or Swedish turnep, and transplanted enough to cover several rods square. The plants suffered some from dry weather, and for several days after planting I was obliged at some trouble to water them. They lived, grew very well, and I gathered about 30 bushels. About 20 bushels of these roots I buried where they grew, and in the spring found my sheep, the ewes and lambs to which they were cut up and fed, very fond of them, and that the good effect was quite observable. I therefore determined the present year, 1833, to extend my cultivation of these roots. The piece of ground I selected, (as the most convenient, not the best,) was in an orchard, from part of which the turneps of the previous year had been taken, and the remainder of which had been occupied with corn and potatoes. This piece of nearly an acre was ploughed up clean, and thoroughly harrowed. It was then ploughed into ridges by throwing two furrows together, of the distance of two and a half feet from each other. Into the center between the ridges, horse barn and fine barn-yard manure was dropped, in those parts that appeared to require it the most, and the ridges were again split with the plough and turned over the manure into ridges extending across the piece of ground. On these ridges the turnep seed—I raised it myself the year previous—was planted by hand, as I had no drill, at the distance of eight or ten inches. It was planted by taking a small quantity of the seed in a basin, and with the ends of the fingers securing from two to five seeds, depositing them with a slight pressure in the light earth on the top of the ridge, to the depth of one inch or a little more, drawing a little of the displaced dirt over them. In this way one individual, planted nearly an acre in less than two days. The quantity of seed used was much less than that mentioned in the books as necessary, and as nearly every seed grew there were at least three times as many plants as were required for the ground; and the thinning and weeding of the plants the first time was by far the most tedious part of the culture, employing a boy of 14 more than a week. The plants all grew well, though it was evident from the first that those on the ridges over the horse-barn manure had the advantage over the others, and which they retained during the season. The plants were hoed by hand twice, which, as the plants at the last time of hoeing nearly covered the ground was all that was required. The fore part of November I commenced pulling them, cutting off the tops and gathering them in piles to feed to cattle, while the roots were buried in heaps of 25 bushels, in the manner of preserving potatoes, by placing a covering of straw and earth over them, light at first, but thicker when cold freezing weather came on. The tops were fed out to my cows and young cattle as required, and all ate of them with avidity. I was at first somewhat apprehensive that the tops might produce an unfavorable effect upon the quality of the butter made after feeding, but was unable to detect the slightest difference, and from the good results obtained I think the tops for the purpose of feeding, possess a value nearly equal to the expense of cultivation. From the nature of the ground selected, I could not expect to realize as great a crop, as from a more favorable location, since under the spreading tops of the appletrees the turneps were mostly worthless, yet I have no reason to complain of the result, and think few crops would have yielded a greater profit with the same labor. There were about 300 bushels on the ground; of these 100 were placed in a cellar, 100 buried in pits as above stated, and the remainder fed to fatting cattle, milch cows, &c. I boiled a few kettles full for feeding hogs, but am not satisfied that they can be so used with advantage. My account with Ruta Baga for the year 1833, will stand as follows:

Dr.—One day ploughing up clean		$1,50
Half a day harrowing		75
One day furrowing		1,75
Manuring		2,00
One day ridging		1,75
Two days planting		1,75
Thinning and hoeing first time		4,00
Hoeing second time		3,00
Gathering and securing crop		4,00
		$20,50
Cr.—300 bushels turneps at 2s. per bush.		$75,00
Balance in favor of Ruta Baga		$54,50

In this estimate it will be perceived I have not counted the land, as the tops must be considered a fair set off for that and the seed. I shall raise turneps to some extent for the future, and would request our farmers generally to experiment in this way for themselves; as I am confident with ordinary precaution and care they will not fail of a crop.

W. G.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Clipping Plum Trees.

It would appear from a paragraph at page 135, vol. 3, that some people believe that "to clip off the tips or last year's growth of the boughs of plum trees in [the spring] will *improve the fruit* and *insure its maturity.*" This process was entirely new to me when I first read it, nor have I since been able to discover any reason for that practice. I will endeavor to speak cautiously of things that I know nothing about; but had my opinion been previously asked, I should have advised directly to the contrary. I will thank any of your correspondents who will be so polite as to furnish the *rationale.*

There is one circumstance that induces me to suspect some mistake in this business. It is represented to be "an infallible remedy for the blight and falling so common to the egg plum." With this plum, I am well acquainted; and the reason why it is more apt to drop than some other kinds, is, that *fewer* plums set on the branches; and the Curculio can *mark* the whole of them in half the time that it would go over a horse plum tree of the same size. This insect is the common cause of the premature loss of the egg plum; and I cannot suppose it would be frightened off by the snapping of a few twigs while it was yet in winter quarters.

An Amateur.

Hammond's Port, Dec. 16, 1833.

Messrs. Tucker & Co.—It would give me pleasure oftener to be a visiter, as a correspondent, to your excellent paper; but the duties of my calling, which have a superior claim upon my time, leave me but little leisure to devote to such employment. Not that I have the vanity to think that I could shed much light upon any of those subjects to which your paper is devoted. I am no farmer nor gardener by profession; though I have not been altogether an inattentive observer of those operations of nature on which these sciences are founded; nor has there ever been a time since the days of my childhood, when the pursuits of the Garden were not my favorite employment. Far abler pens than mine are employed in giving interest and usefulness to your paper, whose productions I read with pleasure and profit; nevertheless, I may occasionally communicate a few lines. If you think the enclosed of any value, you may insert them in your columns.

— W. W. B.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Experiment in late Fall Sowing

OF GARDEN VEGETABLES.

"Experience is our best school master," is an adage as true as it is common. Did mankind follow on in the same beaten track marked out by their ancestors, without venturing into new, untried, though often uncertain paths of experiment, they would make but little advancement on any branch of useful knowledge. Communicating to each other the results of our experience, we increase the common stock of knowledge, enable others to share the benefit of any useful discovery, the result of successful experiment, and save them from the pain of disappointment, loss of time, money, &c. which we may have suffered in our unsuccessful experiments. Making known these last with the causes of our failure is often times as important as communicating those which are successful. The early production of many kinds of vegetables which supply our tables, is a desideratum with most Gardeners. Reading some suggestions of Mr. Cobbet upon Fall sowing of several kinds of vegetables, I determined to make the experiment; accordingly, a year ago this last fall, I had a part of my garden prepared, and late in November, sowed with several kinds of seeds, as Peas, Onions, Beets, Carrots, Parsneps and Salsify or Vegetable Oysters. The following was the result: The weather being mild and open the fore part of December, the Peas vegetated, as I found by examination; the radicle and plumula put forth an inch or more; apprehending they would perish by the winter, I covered them to a greater depth; but my worst apprehensions were realized; they froze and rotted in the ground. I however did not lose all my labor; the ground was early in the spring ready to be sowed again and produced a fine early crop. The Onions fared no better;

* Since writing the above I have seen O. P. Q.'s experiment in turnep culture, and am glad to see he is not discouraged. O. P. Q. however, and others, may rest assured, that without land of good quality and in good order, turneps will not succeed.

by examination it was found the seed had sprouted, and by frequent freezing and thawing, perished. But few of the Beets came up in the spring; the greater part of the seed probably from the same cause having perished; and I was under the necessity of sowing the ground over again. The few that did come up were transplanted, and were very early. The Parsneps and Carrots did much better. The Carrots were very early fit for use in soups, as early as the latter part of June, and grew to a very large size by fall, some of them weighing 3 lbs. a piece. The Salsify came up early and promised fair; but to my great disappointment, began to run up to seed. I immediately dug them up that they might not cumber the ground; but they were unfit to eat. This is the result of my experiment. On the whole there are not many kinds of vegetables which I would recommend to sow in the fall. Our winters are so open and uncertain, there is no dependence to be placed upon the practice. Early sowing in the spring, for early use, is preferable. For early Lettuce it is a good practice, which I have followed for many years, to sow in September or October, and before winter sets in to cover the plants with brush and other loose rubbish. This will be early and fine, especially if transplanted, at suitable distances in light rich ground. Practicing this mode, I have usually a full supply for my table (and I may say for my neighbors too) early in the spring, before others have scarcely thought of sowing. For early Onions there are none probably that come to a state fit for the table so early as the Potatoe Onion, which should be planted in the fall, in October or November, and I have no doubt, (though I cannot speak from experience) that for those who are fond of the Tree Onion, to produce it early, it would be a good practice to plant out the acorns in the fall. W. W. B.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Management of Light Soils.

In a former communication, I treated of the management of clay soils, and in this I shall confine my remarks chiefly to those of which sand and gravel are the principal component parts.

The best soils are generally of a dark color, with a due proportion of sand, calcareous earth and clay; and it is the business of the farmer, and happily in his power, by judicious management, to preserve its fertility, or if either of those ingredients be in too large or too small a proportion, in some measure to correct the evil.

In the management of clay soils, the great object should be to render them more friable; but in the treatment of soils not sufficiently adhesive, the efforts of the farmer should be directed to rendering them more so. This is to be attained by the application of clay, marl, leached ashes or swamp mud, and by ploughing when the ground is wet.

It is often found that sandy soils rest on clay, so near the surface, that deep ploughing will bring up some of it. Where this is the case, the farmer may gain two benefits by one operation. Two inches of clay turned up and mixed with surface soil, will be equal to a dressing of manure, and every inch gained in depth, furnishes so much additional room for the roots of plants to search for food. If, however, clay is not within reach of the plough, the skillful farmer will find a substitute in the scouring of ditches or some of the substances above named. Green crops ploughed in have been found very great improvers of such soils.

In the management of light soils, I should not recommend fall or winter ploughing, unless it be with a view to destroy worms, for the operation of frost is most certainly to destroy tenacity; but I would recommend ploughing deep in all soils.

It is ascertained that a due proportion of lime in the soil is essential to the production of good wheat, and where this is lacking, the enlightened farmer will endeavor to ascertain whether the deficiency can be supplied without an expense disproportioned to the benefits. In Norfolk, England, and in Pennsylvania, lime has been found very beneficial on sandy soils. In Western New-York, where it can be obtained at a reasonable price, it would be worth while to make the experiment on a small scale. ONTARIO.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Warming Houses.

In one of my communications last winter, [vol. 3, p. 30,] on the subject of *fuel*, I attempted to show that the ordinary cost of wood in the western villages of this state, was very little, if any, short of the price paid in New England for the same amount of acquired heat; for although the price of wood in this state was less by the cord than in New England, yet its more porous and gaseous qualities, rendered its specific gravity so much less, that it required more than double the quantity to produce the same effect. I also suggested the expediency of adopting more extensively the use of anthracite coal, as being not only more economical, but far less troublesome.

Circumstances have placed me this season in a different sphere of action, and where I have had a better opportunity of observing the use, and the effects of coal, in its various applications.

The grand desideratum in housekeeping, as well as in the arts, is to obtain the greatest amount of heat with the least expenditure of *fuel* and *money*; and notwithstanding the prejudice which has so extensively existed against anthracite coal, it must soon be universally acknowledged, that we have no means of combining so fully these desirable objects, as by its use. The enormous increase of our population too, is fast leveling our forests, so that ere long the use of coal will be absolutely necessary in our larger cities and villages. The sooner, therefore, we adopt it, the sooner we shall learn its use, and experience its happy effects upon our comfort and our purses.

At present, I propose to confine myself wholly to the subject of warming dwelling houses; and in so doing, I would suggest only *two modes*, which meet my views of *comfort* and *economy*.

The first is the "Hot Air Furnace," to which I alluded in my communication of last winter. The principle of this is simply a cilindrical iron furnace, with a grate at its bottom for draught and the transmission of ashes, and an opening on its side for feeding it with coal. This cylinder is then surrounded with either brick or sheet iron, so as to form an air chamber around the furnace, from whence the heated air is carried to any desired location, by means of tin tubes. Such a furnace, placed in a convenient situation in the cellar or lower apartment, renders all fire above stairs wholly unnecessary. To secure all the advantages of this plan, it is essential that the smoke pipe from the furnace should pass through a series of dumb stoves, placed in each story, either in the hall, or other rooms, as most convenient; while the heated air from the air chamber, is conveyed by tubes to such other rooms as are in constant use. By such an arrangement, a most delightful heat is disseminated through an ordinary sized house, from the cellar to the garret, by means of only one fire.

This plan combines several important and essential objects. First, the *saving* of *fuel*. A furnace of this description will not consume over *one* ton of coal per month, keeping fire night and day; and unless the weather is very severe, it need not average over half a ton per month. The best of Lehigh coal can be delivered in Buffalo in the summer season at $12 per ton, and in the same proportion at the intermediate places. Even then, at Rochester or Buffalo, the expense of supplying such a furnace, together with the comfort of an entire warm house, would not exceed $40 or $50. Where is the man, in either place, who lives at an expense of $800 or $1,000 per year, who does not pay nearly double the amount, for the privilege of *heating the air above the top of his chimney!*

Second—It is a great saving of comfort. Instead of having only one room warmed by a common fire place or stove, and that indifferently well, you have your whole house comfortable, so that you can pass from one room to another without the danger of being chilled; and at night, your family may retire to their several apartments, to enjoy the luxury of a summer's temperature, without either the hazard of colds and catarrhs, or the enervating influence of a *load* of bed clothes.

Third—It is safe and cleanly. No damage can accrue to children or others, from the burning of clothes or skin; nor are your carpets or furniture continually exposed to the depredations of sparks and coals; and as nothing but *pure air* is transmitted from the open atmosphere through the air chamber into your rooms, so neither *dust* nor *ashes* will arise to annoy your family or friends.

Fourth—You are not exposed to colds and catarrhs, and to the innumerable train of evils which follow as a consequence, from the *currents* of *cold air* which are continually forced into a common room, to supply the place of the heated air which passes up chimney. It will readily be perceived, that as hot air is by this plan forced *into* the room, and no draught *out* of it, the accumulation of this hot air will not only produce a uniform heat throughout the room, but by its constant accession heat must escape through the cracks and crevices of the building, thereby reversing the present course of currents. *Hot air* will force its way out of the room, instead of *cold air* into it.

Since *using* a furnace upon this plan, I have seen a suggestion in Silliman's Journal of Science, from Prof. Johnston of Philadelphia, which adapts the "Air furnace" to culinary purposes, as well as heating the house. His principle is precisely the same as the one I have described, but using the same heat which ascends into the rooms above, for culinary purposes below. This is certainly a consummation greatly to be desired in the economy of families, for as the Professor just-

ly remarks, "the culinary operations of almost every family involve an immense *waste* of heat, and of heat too, which might be turned to valuable account, were but a small portion of the ingenuity bestowed on less important subjects, turned toward that much neglected branch of domestic operations." For a particular description of his apparatus, I would refer the reader to the 23d volume of the American Journal of Science and Arts, No. 2, January, 1833.

The other mode of warming dwellings to which I shall refer, is by means of Dr. Nott's Stoves. This is the very acme of stove invention. No one who has experienced the pleasure and comfort arising from the use of these stoves, will be disposed to deny the Dr. the full meed of praise, which this exhibition of his talents has called forth.

It has often been remarked that great minds, which are constantly engrossed with the contemplation and study of first principles, with their various ramifications through the arts and sciences, seldom descend to minute particulars; but in Dr. Nott, we have an instance of an intellect, which after having traversed the whole range of science, and for years investigated the principles of heat and caloric, at once descending to put these principles in practice, and bending its gigantic resources to the mechanical arrangement of furnaces and castings, and even to the formation of screws and rivets.

It is unnecessary here to enter into an analysis of these stoves. Suffice it to say that they combine the following great principles. Saving of fuel; saving of expense; saving of time; and saving of comfort. A stove which will cost $25 or $30, will abundantly heat two rooms with folding doors, besides two chambers with dumb stoves. And with all this heat, the consumption of fuel is so small, that one stove of the above price will not require to exceed one and a half tons of coal from November to April; and where the fire is not kept up at night, one ton will be sufficient. Now contrast this statement with the enormous expenditure of wood, in our inland villages. Take for instance Rochester or Buffalo, and compare the difference of expense, between burning wood in the ordinary way by stoves and fire places, and of coal, in Nott's stoves.

A ton of coal in the village of Rochester will be worth, say $11,00; and by the use of Nott's stoves, a ton and a half will abundantly supply a family through the winter. In the village of Rochester there are at lest 1,000 families who require, and actually use, stoves or other substitutes more expensive than Nott's stoves. These one thousand families burn on an average, (aside from their kitchens) twenty cords of wood each; for though some burn not over five or ten cords, yet others burn thirty or forty. We will say, however, that the average does not exceed fifteen cords per family, which when cut and ready for the fire will average $2 per cord. At this estimate, the value of wood burned by the 1,000 families, will amount to $30,000. Now for the coal. Averaging the quantity to each family at a ton and a half, and the price at $11 per ton, the whole cost for 1,000 families will be $16,500; to which you may add if you please, for cartage and extras, $3,500, and you then have the enormous saving to the village of $10,000, in a single winter, by the use of anthracite coal and Nott's stoves.—Now in all this there can be no mistake, for I am a daily spectator of similar results.

In conclusion, I would barely say to those who are sceptical, try it, and be satisfied; to those who love comfort, try it, and be ye warmed and filled; to those who love money, try it, and save your pence; but to those who prefer the *old* and *frigid* path, I must also say, go on, if you will, to your heart's content, but remember it will be at the expense of *money*, *comfort*, and *health*.

QUERCUS.

For the Genesee Farmer.

American Grapes.

I have read the article written by your correspondent E. C., [vol. 3, p. 396,] with much interest, and would take the liberty to make a few remarks.

When WILLIAM PENN says "he produced ripe grapes by the 28th of the 5th month," he meant *two months later* in the season than that expression would imply in these times. I remember to have seen an Almanac for the year 1748, which commenced with "January," but it was called *the eleventh month* and "March" was called *the first month*. The present mode of numbering the months was probably adopted in the year 1752 when the *New Style* was introduced.

The "difference of opinion as to many of our grapes being native," or not, may in most cases be determined by their *hardiness*. I have seen no exotic variety that will bear the winters of the Genesee Country without some damage; nor any native grape except the Scuppernong that is decidedly *tender*. The Isabella and the Bland are both sometimes injured, but not to the same extent as exotic vines.

Watson refers to the Orwigsburgh as a native kind; but it is *now* considered only an American variety from a seed of the Asiatic vine. *Prince* says "It is not more hardy than the white Muscadine [or Sweet Water]; and not more regular in ripening its wood *if it is even as much so*. It is quite as subject to the mildew as the Chasselas vines are."

I have often heard of the delicious grapes of the Susquehanna; but there is so much difference in tastes, that we ought to receive such accounts with some abatement. There is another reason which is often still stronger, and at times even sufficient to render the testimony of the taster of little value: I mean when he is *hungry* and in the woods where he has no other fruit to lessen the keenness of his appetite.

When Col. *Long* and his party were exploring the great deserts toward the Rocky Mountains they found grapes which they pronounced "*incomparably finer* than any of the native or exotic grapes which they had met with in the United States." I am told however that such as have grown at Bartram's Botanic Garden, from seed collected at that time, are quite inferior to the kinds commonly cultivated.

I am not aware that any of the grapes referred to, by your correspondent have been introduced into this section of the country; but if they have, I would willingly become a purchaser, and give them a fair trial. A CULTIVATOR OF THE VINE.

P. S. Excellent silk has been made by worms fed on the leaves of our native mulberry; and the writer of this when a boy, assisted in feeding some thousands on this kind of food.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Canada Thistles.

An old pamphlet on the Canada Thistle that had long been mislaid, was handed to me the other day with an omision of several pages. One part was a valuable communication from Dr. *Hosack* to the late Dr. *Mitchill*, written in the year 1810; but the mutilated part was from a person in Vermont, using the initials "D. C. S."

It has been said that no proposal of importance can be made to the public, without provoking the opposition of somebody; and this writer affords one illustration of the remark. He fancied the Canadian thistle was a fine plant; and entertained apprehensions that we might eventually lose it!

"We seldom know the extent of the blessings we enjoy. Some of our most experienced farmers, who labored with the greatest zeal to exterminate these thistles, now see in them, not enemies, but *friends*, in a rough dress indeed, but still salutary. Several advantages are obvious. 1. They *enrich* land, serving as a valuable manure. 2. They keep the soil *loose*. 3. They serve as *food* for cattle. The stocks of clover and other large grasses will be left often *uneaten* in a yard, but the thistle never escapes, being always the object of desire to *some* kind of cattle. 4. It is conceived to be *healthy*, a remedy or a preventive of the diseases common to the brute creation. One of the most experienced farmers in Vermont has lately expressed to me his wishes for the *increase* of this plant on his farm, where he once tried long and ardently to *destroy* it; but he now has fears that it will ere long totally *disappear* from this section of the country."

Are these things so? I suspect the Vermont farmer had amused himself with the credulity of our learned author, whose knowledge of rural affairs was evidently very slender. Look at his reasons. "1. They serve as a valuable manure." Certainly not *more* so than spear grass or red-top if left uncut or *unpastured*; and mark the difference: Sow a field of rank thistles, with oats or wheat on one ploughing like a clover lay, and the crop will scarcely be worth harvesting; and even with the customary culture of corn and potatoes, the remaining roots of the thistle would more than counterbalance the effects of the *manure*. "2. They keep the soil loose:" that is, they smother the grass; and cattle neither eat them nor trample them, down: otherwise it would not be *loose*. A loose soil that produces nothing of value, is not desirable. "3. They serve as food for cattle." Of what kind? Professor *Martyn* says "The goat and ass will eat it." But we want to keep neither goats nor asses. He adds: "Horses will sometimes crop the head when young and tender, but no other cattle seem to touch it." This exactly accords with my experience; and I have taken particular notice that when it has been mixed with the hay, it has been left untouched by the cattle. "4. It is *conceived* to be healthy:" but not *known* to be so. Excepting this suggestion, I have never seen nor heard a particle of evidence in its favor.

I cannot believe that any farmer would *honestly* express fears of its total disappearance. I have conversed with several farmers from Vermont on this subject, and have never heard such an idea advanced. They have told me that it

grew more vigorously in that state than in the western part of New-York, which they ascribed to the difference of climate; yet our experience for the last twenty-five years affords no hope of its *running out*, here. On the contrary, we know it has actually and widely increased.

In England, where it has flourished so long as to be considered a native plant, there is no expectation of its decline. We learn from *Loudon* that it continues "one of the most troublesome weeds in arable land. The plant is so common by road sides, and seeds so abundantly, that it is hardly possible to effect its extermination. In common field lands, it often forms the larger half of the produce." Sir *John Sinclair* bears a similar testimony: It "is extremely injurious to all crops. *It is for a time destroyed by a well-managed summer fallow*; but that is only a local remedy; for its numerous seeds, which are feathered, will often come from a considerable distance, and replenish the field that has been cleared."

I hope our Legislature will take up the subject in good earnest. It is full time that something effectual was done. A FARMER.

For the Genesee Farmer.

Transmutation of Grain.

A few years since I was personally knowing to the chopping of four acres of timbered land in June, which was logged and burned (the land was burned completely over) in October following,—enough to burn or kill any grain or seed that might have been on the ground. About the first of November this piece was sowed to wheat, with five bushels of first rate clean seed. The wheat came up, but was small, when winter set in. It was covered with snow the greatest part of the winter. About the 20th of the next March, as the snow went off, (this land being poorly fenced) about twenty geese commenced depredations upon the wheat, and kept up their depredations for ten or twelve days, until they were shut out and taken care of. These geese were frequently drove and dogged out,—therefore they were careful not to get far into the field. However, they picked and eat the greatest part of the wheat on the first two acres. The August after, when this wheat was harvested, that part of the field which the geese had not meddled with brought good wheat, while on the part which was visited by the geese in the spring, the crop was full one half *Chess*. This land being new, and cattle never being suffered to feed the wheat, or to run on the land during the fall, winter or spring, it is no wise probable that one hundredth part of this chess came from any thing else but the pure seed wheat which was sown the fall before.

A. P. ROBINSON.

Lancaster, Erie co., Dec. 20, 1833.

For the Genesee Farmer.

MESSRS. L. TUCKER & Co.—Among the discoveries recently made, is the one that wheat, oats and flax will turn to chess. Although I have been an advocate for this popular doctrine, and said all that could be said in support of it, yet I never believed it, but wrote to draw out arguments in opposition that should put to silence this strange doctrine. I verily believe that man can change nothing that God has made. He may modify, but cannot change. Now, I believe that he has impressed on wheat, oat and flax seed unalterable propensities, which cannot be altered by man, and that our friends Ramsdell and others will strive in vain to change either into chess; but in these times of discovery it is possible that many things may turn up which have not been thought of in my philosophy. R. M. W.

Potter, Dec. 26, 1833.

From the Columbia Sentinel.

Wintering Sheep.

The season has arrived when sheep require a little of our time and attention. If these are now bestowed with subsequent ordinary care, sheep will pass through the winter with a trifling loss and much to our andvantage. For want of attention at this season of the year, I have seen large flocks almost entirely destroyed, while their owners blamed their bad luck, but not their bad management. Sheep to do well through the winter must be in good condition when they begin it. If they are so, they pass through it without difficulty; but if they are poor at this season, good provender and a regular supply of it, will not insure them well through. To see then that our sheep have been well taken care of during the summer and fall, is an important step with the farmer, and which would be a great saving both in sheep and fodder. It is wrong to permit them to ramble over the fields later than about the first of December, because at that time there is little nutriment in the scanty herbage on which they feed, and the grass itself had better remain on the stem to protect it during the frosts and winds of winter, and prepare it for an early and vigorous growth in the spring; besides, as the supply to the animal is small and innutritious, there is great danger that there will be a falling off in its flesh, which it can illy spare, and which to its subsequent existence it is so necessary it should retain.

I have frequently thought that an open December, which is so often wished for by the farmer to save his winter's supply of hay, is more prejudicial to his sheep, when they ramble over the fields, and to his own interest than he is generally aware of. It would certainly comport more with real economy, if he were to bring up his sheep by the 10th of December into winter quarters, even if the weather should remain warm and the ground uncovered. If they lose flesh at this time, they cannot regain it until spring, and the mortality which sometimes costs flocks of sheep, is imputable to this cause.

Sheep in winter should have sheds; the preservation of their health requires this indulgence, and nature prompts to it. Let me ask, if they have the choice, do they remain in the open air in a storm? No—they as instinctively run to their covering as a man does to his house, and if they do not require it quite as much, they appear as grateful for the shelter. For a flock of poor sheep a protection from the weather is all important. Those in good condition do not so much want it, as they have a better coat both of flesh and wool; but for them it is likewise useful, and a good farmer will not omit to give all the requisite shelter.

As soon as sheep are brought into the yard, the different kinds of lambs, ewes and wethers, should be carefully separated and kept during the winter apart. It is important that those in one yard should be nearly of a size as practicable; for by being so, there are no strong ones among them, to drive the weaker from their provender. All will feed alike and do well. The flocks ought likewise to be as small as we can conveniently make them. It is an invariable rule that a small flock does much better than a large one, even if both, according to their number, are fed equally well. If the flocks in each yard can be reduced to between fifty and one hundred, so much the better; and it is a great desideratum to make them as few as fifty, if it can in any way be effected. It is likewise necessary to have a separate yard for old and poor sheep, and if there are any in the flock that do not subsequently do well, they should be removed into what is commonly called the hospital. These hospital sheep, by being few in number having a good warm shed, a sheaf of oats, or a few screenings from under the fanning mill, once a day, will soon begin to improve and do well. I have had my hospital sheep in a better condition with this care by spring than any other flock, and I must say that for the last three seasons, my sheep were in a better condition when I turned them out of my yard in the spring, than when I put them in the beginning of winter.

Sheep ought to be rather sparingly than sumptuously fed, three times a day, out of racks to prevent them from running over and trampling on the hay. As soon as one is seen in any of the flocks to become thin, it ought to be removed at once into the hospital where it will be better fed. If you neglect to do this, soon it will be too late, and you will suffer loss; for a sheep once reduced to a certain point cannot be recovered. It is good to give them a feeding of straw or pine tops, if you please; it invigorates their health, and makes a change in their food. They ought all to be daily watered, and if your hay has not been salted, they ought to have a lick of salt occasionally. By adopting these rules, you will save all your sheep; or you will not lose more of them than you would of the same number of horses and cattle. They will have no disease among them. I have often thought of an observation made to me by an experienced woolgrower from whom I asked for informarion of the diseases of sheep: he answered: "What have you to do with the diseases of sheep—take care of them and you will have no need for remedies." This observation struck me as strange at the time, but subsequent experience has amply confirmed it.

And now, what will the farmer gain by keeping his sheep well? In the first place, he will gain in his hay,—a fat sheep will not eat as much as a poor one; he will save all his grain —sheep in good condition do not require any. In the next place, he will save all his sheep—he will have more and better lambs in the spring, and in consequence of it, he will have several ounces of wool more to each sheep; and what is better than all the rest, he will in the end save himself loss and anxiety. The saving will at least be from one-eighth to one-fourth of the value of his flock, and all this by attending to a necessary work in due season. A.

AGENTS FOR THE FARMER.
Lockport—Wm. Parsons.
Willson—Dr. I. Sayer.
Oak Orchard—Z. Webb.
Skaneateles—Charles I. Burnett, Jr.

PRICES CURRENT.

ARTICLES.	PER	*Jan.* 10. ROCHESTER.	*Jan.* 4. NEW-YORK.
Ashes—Pot....	100lbs.	$3,75 a 0,00	$4,30 a 4,35
—— Pearl..	.....	4,00 a 4,25	4,70 a 4,80
Beeswax, yellow	lb.	0,20 a 0,22	18 a 20
Candles, mould	.....	0,10½a0,11	12 .a 13
—— dipped.	.....	0,10a0,10½	10½ a11½
Cloverseed.....	.....	.....	12..a.13
Flax, American.	.....	.....	9..a.11
Flax seed, clean	tierce	9,00a10,00	15,00
Flour, Western.	barrel	4,50 a 5,00	5,56 a5,75
Grain, Wheat..	bushel	0,87½.....	1,12
—— Rye....	.....	0,62.....	67
—— Oats...	.....	0,25.....	38
—— Corn...	.....	0,56.....	50.a..60
—— Barley..	.....	0,50.a..56	.....
Hemp, Americ'n	ton	.....	1,30 a 1,50
Hops, 1st sort .	lb.	.....	24.a..25
Plaster Paris...	ton	6,00 a 0,00	.....,4,25
Beef, Mess....	barrel	0,00 a10,00	8,50 a 9,50
—— Prime....	.....	0,00 a 8,00	5,50 a 6,00
Pork, Mess....	.....	15,00	14,50a15,00
—— Prime....	.....	11,00	10,50a11,25
—— in the hog.	100lbs.	4,50 a 5,50	.....
Hog's Lard....	.....	8,00 a 9,00	8,00a10,00
Tallow.....	.....	8,00 a 9,00	8,00.....
Hay.....	ton	8,00 a 9,00	.....
Apples.....	bushel	25.a..50	.....
Cheese.....	lb.	5.a...8	.....
Butter.....	.....	14..a.16	.....

Signs of Prosperity.

[From the Chinese.]

Where spades grow bright, and idle swords grow dull;
Where jails are empty, and where barns are full;
Where church paths are with frequent feet outworn,
Law court-yards weedy, silent and forlorn:
Where doctors foot it, and where farmers ride;
Where age abounds, and youth is multiplied;
Where these signs are, they clearly indicate
A happy people, and well governed state.

The Pleasures and Enjoyments

CONNECTED WITH THE PURSUITS OF SCIENCE.

(*Continued from page* 8.)

With the help of his micriscope, he can enter into a world unknown to the ignorant, and altogether invisible to the unassisted eye. In every plant and flower which adorns the field, in every leaf of the forest, in the seeds, prickles, and down of all vegetables, he perceives beauties and harmonies, and exquisite contrivances, of which, without this instrument, he could have formed no conception. In every scale of a haddock he perceives a beautiful piece of net-work, admirably contrived and arranged, and in the scale of a sole a still more diversified structure, which no art could imitate, terminated with pointed spikes, and formed with admirable regularity. Where nothing but a speck of *mouldiness* appears to the naked eye, he beholds *a forest of mushrooms* with long stalks, and with leaves and blossoms distinctly visible. In the eyes of a common fly, where others can see only two small protuberances, he perceives several thousands of beautiful transparent globes, exquisitely rounded and polished, placed with the utmost regularity in rows, crossing each other like a kind of lattice-work, and forming the most admirable piece of mechanism which the eye can contemplate. The small dust that covers the wings of moths and butterflies he perceives to consist of an infinite multitude of feathers of various forms, not much unlike the feathers of birds, and adorned with the most bright and vivid colors. In an animal so small that the naked eye can scarcely distingush it as a visible point, he perceives a head, mouth, eyes, legs, joints, bristles, hair, and other animal parts and functions, as nicely formed and adjusted, and endowed with as much vivacity, agility, and intelligence, as the larger animals. In the tail of a small fish, or the foot of a frog, he can perceive the variegated branchings of the veins and arteries, and the blood circulating through them with amazing velocity. In a drop of stagnant water he perceives thousands of living beings, of various shapes and sizes, beautifully formed, and swimming with wanton vivacity like fishes in the midst of the ocean. In short, by this instrument he perceives that the whole earth is full of animation, and that there is not a single tree, plant, or flower, and scarcely a drop of water, that is not teeming with life, and peopled with its peculiar inhabitants. He thus enters, as it were, into a new world, invisible to other eyes, where every object in the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms presents a new and interesting aspect, and unfolds beauties, harmonies, contrasts, and exquisite contrivances, altogether inconceivable by the ignorant and unreflecting mind.

In the invisible atmosphere which surrounds him, where other minds discern nothing but an immense blank, he beholds an assemblage of wonders, and a striking scene of Divine Wisdom and Omnipotence. He views this invisible agent not only as a *material* but as a *compound* substance —compounded of two opposite principles, the one the source of flame and animal life, and the other destructive to both, and producing by their different combinations, the most diversified and beneficial effects. He perceives the atmosphere, as the agent under the Almighty, which produces the germination and growth of plants, and all the beauties of the vegetable creation—which preserves water in a liquid state—supports fire and flame, and produces animal heat, which sustains the clouds, and gives buoyancy to the feathered tribes—which is the cause of winds—the vehicle of smells—the medium of sounds—the source of all the pleasures we derive from the harmonies of music—the cause of that universal light and splendor which is diffused around us, and of the advantages we derive from the morning and evening twilight. In short, he contemplates it as the prime mover in a variety of machines,—as impelling ships across the ocean, blowing our furnaces, grinding our corn, raising water from the deepest pits, extinguishing fires, setting power-looms in motion, propelling steam-boats along rivers and canals, raising balloons to the region of the clouds, and performing a thousand other beneficent agencies without which our globe would cease to be a habitable world. All which views and contemplations have an evident tendency to enlarge the capacity of the mind, to stimulate its faculties, and to produce rational enjoyment.

Again,—the man of knowledge, even when shrouded in darkness, and in solitude, where other minds could find no enjoyment, can entertain himself with the most sublime contemplations. He can trace the huge globe on which we stand flying through the depths of space, carrying along with it its vast population, at the rate of sixty thousand miles every hour, and, by the inclination of its axis, bringing about the alternate succession of summer and winter, spring and harvest. By the aid of his telescope he can transport himself towards the moon, and survey the circular plains, the deep caverns, the conical hills, the lofty peaks, the shadows of the hills and vales, and the rugged and romantic mountain scenery which diversify the surface of this orb of night. By the help of the same instrument he can range through the planetary system, wing his way through the regions of space along with the swiftest orbs, and trace many of the physical aspects and revolutions which have a relation to distant worlds. He can transport himself to the planet Saturn, and behold a stupendous ring, 600,000 miles in circumference, revolving in majestic grandeur every ten hours around a globe nine hundred times larger than the earth, while seven moons, larger than ours, along with an innumerable host of stars, display their radiance, to adorn the firmament of that magnificent world. He can wing his flight to the still more distant regions of the universe, leaving the sun and all his planets behind him, till they appear like a scarcely discernible speck in creation, and contemplate thousands and millions of stars and starry systems, beyond the range of the unassisted eye, and wander among suns and worlds dispersed throughout the boundless dimensions of space. He can fill up, in his imagination, those blanks which astronomy has never directly explored, and conceive thousands of systems and ten thousands of worlds, beyond all that is visible by the optic tube, stretching out to infinity on every hand,—new creations incessantly starting into existence—peopled with intelligences of various orders, and all under the superintendence and government of the "King Eternal, Immortal, and Invisible," whose power is omnipotent, and the limits of his dominions past finding out.

It is evident that a mind capable of such excursions and contemplations as I have now supposed, must experience enjoyments infinitely superior to those of the individual whose soul is enveloped in intellectual darkness. If substantial happiness is chiefly seated in the mind, if it consists in the vigorous exercise of its faculties, if it depends on the multiplicity of objects which lie within the range of its contemplation, if it is augmented by the view of scenes of beauty and sublimity, and displays of infinite intelligence and power, if it is connected with tranquility of mind, which generally accompanies intellectual pursuits, and with the subjugation of the pleasures of sense to the dictates of reason—the enlightened mind must enjoy gratifications as far superior to those of the ignorant, as man is superior in station and capacity to the worms of the dust.

BROOKLYN PROPERTY.—The farm of the late R. V. Beekman, two miles from the ferry, was sold at auction on the 21st Dec. It comprises 26 acres and 18 perches, and was bought by Charles Hoyt for $25,100.—*L. I. Star.*

Family Receipts.

TO PICKLE TONGUES FOR BOILING.—Cut off the root, leaving a little of the kernel and fat. Sprinkle some salt over it, and let it drain twenty-four hours: then for each tongue mix a table spoonful of common salt, the same quantity of coarse sugar, a small quantity of saltpeter reduced to a powder, and rub it well into each tongue every day. In a week add another heaped spoonful of salt. If rubbed every day, a tongue will be sufficiently pickled for drying in a fortnight; but if only turned daily in the pickle, it will require four or five weeks.

Tongues may be smoked, or dried plain, as may best suit the taste. The longer kept after drying, the higher will be their flavor. If hard, they should be soaked three or four hours before boiling. When dressed allow five hours for boiling, as their excellence consists in being made exceedingly tender.

TO PRESERVE SUET FOR A LONG TIME.—As soon as it comes in choose the firmest part of it; carefully separate all the skin and veins; put in a sauce pan at such distance from the fire as to melt it slowly without trying. When in a hard cake, wipe it quite dry, fold it in fine paper, put it in a bag, and keep it in a cool place; and it may be preserved in a sound state for a year.—*Northern Farmer.*

YEAST.—Good housewives, who take pride in setting sweet and light bread before their families, feel vexed at nothing more than bad yeast. And they are sometimes put to a great deal of trouble in procuring a good article. The following is said to be a good receipt for making it: Boil one pound of good flour and a quarter of a pound of brown sugar, and a little salt, in two gallons of water for one hour. When milk warm, bottle it and cork it close and it will be fit for use in 24 hours. One pint of the yeast will make 18 lbs. of bread.

TO BUILDERS AND FARMERS.

HIGHLY important and useful improvement in securing Frame buildings against the effects of the external atmosphere.

The subscriber is owner and proprietor of the Patent, taken out in 1832, by Ebenezer Mix, Esq., of Batavia, for his very important improvement in securing houses and other farm buildings against the effects of *heat*, *frost* and *moisture* in the atmosphere.

This improvement was noticed in the Genesee Farmer, in the fall of 1832, and is now offered to the public notice. Its cheapness and importance to the comfort of buildings strongly recommend it to the attention of a discerning community.

By this improvement the great and long desired point, of disarming the external atmosphere of its unpleasant effects upon the comfort and well being of families is very fully attained.

Applications to the subscriber, post paid, inclosing the inconsiderable equivalent of five dollars, will procure for the applicant the privilege with nstructions for using the said Patent-right in the e ction of one single building or dwelling house.

oct 5-6m JOHN LOWBER.

MONROE GARDEN AND NURSERY,

GREECE, NEAR ROCHESTER, N. Y.

THE subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries Raspberries, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses. Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous. Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, &c.

Also, a few hundred of the Morus Multicaulis or Phillipine Mulberry, the white Italian Mulberry by the hundred or thousand, English Hawthorn Quicks. Grape Vines of both native and foreign varieties, mostly of large size, for sale by the single vine, hundred or thousand at reduced prices. The subscriber has a large Green House well filled with a large collection of choice Green-House Plants in good condition.

All orders, by mail or otherwise, will be promptly attended to, and packages delivered in Rochester or at the mouth of Genesee River.

ASA ROWE.